

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 8.

Please amend Claims 1, 3-7, and 9 as follows:

Please add new Claims 11-19 as follows:

1. **(Currently amended)** A dental furnace for producing compacted ceramics, comprising:

a hood-shaped firing chamber into which a muffle can be inserted and which is closed in operation by a bottom plate;~~with~~

a pneumatic cylinder being mounted on the firing chamber;~~and~~

~~whose working pressure can be set by means of a pressure reducer, wherein at least two pressure reducers configured to set a working pressure of the pneumatic cylinder, are each pressure reducer being provided with a different working pressure or the pressure reducer is provided in the form of a proportional pressure regulator with electronically-controllable different working pressures.~~

2. (Previously presented) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein the pressure reducers are arranged on a plate-like support basis.

3. **(Currently amended)** A dental furnace according to claim 2, wherein a pneumatic and/or electronic control unit is provided on the support basis whose lines and/or cabling is introduced from below into the at least one duct in a guide column.

4. **(Currently amended)** A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein three pressure reducers are provided which each provide a working pressure of 4, 5 and 6 bar, respectively in particular.

5. **(Currently amended)** A dental furnace according to claim 4, wherein the an input or system pressure in the pneumatic line is approximately 10 bar.

6. **(Currently amended)** A dental furnace according to claim [1] 3, wherein the guide column comprises at least two ducts, with lines to the pneumatic cylinder and electric cables being guided separated from another.

7. **(Currently amended)** A dental furnace according to claim [1] 3, wherein the firing chamber is suspended at the upper end of the guide column.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently amended) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein the pressure reducers or the proportional pressure regulator are coupled with a program unit, especially a memory card, in which different heating and/or compacting processes are stored.

10. (Previously presented) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein outlet slots for lines or cables are provided in the upper/lower region of a duct.

11. (New) A dental furnace for producing compacted ceramics, comprising:

 a hood-shaped firing chamber into which a muffle can be inserted and which is closed in operation by a bottom plate;

 a pneumatic cylinder mounted on the firing chamber; and

 a proportional pressure regulator configured to set a working pressure of the pneumatic cylinder, the proportional pressure regulator having electronically controllable different working pressures.

12. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein the proportional pressure regulator is arranged on a plate-like support basis.

13. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 12, wherein an electronic control unit is provided on the support basis whose lines and/or cabling is introduced from below into the at least one duct in a guide column.

14. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein the proportional pressure regulator has working pressures of 4, 5 and 6 bar.

15. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 14, wherein the input or system pressure in the pneumatic line is approximately 10 bar.

16. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 13, wherein the guide column comprises at least two ducts, with lines to the pneumatic cylinder and electric cables being guided separated from another.

17. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 13, wherein the firing chamber is suspended at the upper end of the guide column.

18. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein the proportional pressure regulator is coupled with a program unit in which different heating and/or compacting processes are stored.

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19. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein outlet slots for lines or cables are provided in the upper/lower region of a duct.